

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 403

By

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Robert A. (Bobby)
Edwards.

WHEREAS, it was with great sorrow and a profound sense of loss that the members of the General Assembly learned of the death of Robert A. (Bobby) Edwards, a highly respected industrialist, political activist and community leader; and

WHEREAS, Bobby was deeply concerned with making his southeast Wilson County community of Norene a better place in which to live; and

WHEREAS, he was one of the first members of the board of directors and a principal organizer of University Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, he also served as a board member of Cedar Creek Home Health Services; and

WHEREAS, a former member of the Cumberland University Board of Trust, he was employed for more than 29 years with Washington Industries, a leading apparel firm with manufacturing sites located throughout Tennessee and Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, Bobby has served as plant manager and industries operation manager at the Tennessee Prison for Women from 1988 through 1996; and

WHEREAS, he was a member of the Wilson County Commission's Agricultural Management Committee, a longtime member of the Wilson County Fair Board, a member of the planning and nominating committees for Middle Tennessee Electric Membership Cooperation,

and he served as president of the Tennessee State Employees Association's chapter serving Trousdale, Wilson and Smith Counties; and

WHEREAS, Bobby maintained an active interest in local government affairs, and statewide and local political campaigns, and he was a longtime friend and supporter of Senator Rochelle and Representative Bell; and

WHEREAS, he devoted much of his time to improving his community. Bobby Edwards served as a member of the Norene Community Club and held a perfect attendance Sunday School record for 25 years at Fall Creek Baptist Church where he also served as a church trustee; and

WHEREAS, Bobby was responsible for several improvements to the Norene Community Center and the success of various events within the community, including the Norene political rally and ice-cream supper; and

WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife, Ann Clemons Edwards; daughter, Phyllis Jones (Randy) and granddaughter, Julie Michelle Jones, of Gallatin; four sisters, Erlene Phillips of Norene, Paulene Oakley of Lascassas and Marie Thomas Dobson of Gladeville; and three brothers, Riley Ruby Edwards and Ray Edwards, both of Lebanon, and Harold Edwards of Norene and 29 nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS, although Bobby Edwards has relinquished this life for a far better existence, his reputation as a diligent public servant, dedicated community leader and loving father and husband will live forever; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we pause to honor the memory of Robert A. (Bobby) Edwards, reflecting fondly upon his indelible legacy of service to his fellow human beings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our condolences to his family and many friends.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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